



Chicago Hispanic Health Coalition

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Testimony on Patient Health Data
Privacy & Security Policies

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- Privacy laws may pose an obstacle to exchanging some medical information including information regarding a patient's mental health history, substance abuse or HIV/AIDS. Therefore, each patient should be assigned a unique patient identifier so that a patient's ILHIE record contains a complete record of a patient's medical background, including mental health (medications), substance abuse history, or HIV/AIDS. This unique identifier should comply with existing HIPAA (and other consumer privacy regulations') provisions and interpretations. Providers are not well-informed about federal and state law.
- All patients should have access to their ILHIE records because proper patient identification (race, ethnicity, gender, residence location, etc.) will be required to make meaningful and effective population-based medical decisions.
- A patient should be able to allow the sharing of her-his health information to facilitate coordinated care.
- The ILHIE medical record should be available to the patient in his/her preferred language if needed. This will allow a patient the opportunity to amend or correct medical errors contained in the ILHIE record.
- In the event that the ILHIE medical record cannot be translated in a timely manner, it is important to have certified medical translators available to assist the patient in maintaining accurate medical information in the ILHIE records.